

authors were often not able to describe floral structures well and often failed to illustrate them well, but they made up for this by much more fully and carefully studying other parts of the plant. The advent of the Linnaean sexual system of classification had a very bad effect on the study of all parts of plants except the flowers, and that has to a very considerable extent persisted to this day. It is very noticeable in our botanical manuals. But much of this other information is well brought out in these older authors. And I never go over their pages without a greater respect for their labors and learning and their desire for knowledge and their desire to impart it. I never feel like sneering at such work.

MAPLEWOOD, NEW JERSEY.

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EQUISETUM PRATENSE IN BERKSHIRE COUNTY, MASS.—*Equisetum pratense* Ehrh. has apparently never been reported from Berkshire County, Mass. and its actual occurrence there may be worth recording.

It adds one more to the long list, well known to any field botanist, of interesting things found while stopping for lunch. During such a stop in the course of an automobile excursion, in the valley of a small tributary of the Blackberry River in the township of New Marlboro, my attention was attracted by some lustrous-leaved willows, probably *Salix serissima*, in a nearby thicket. Investigation showed that the thicket also contained a small but vigorous colony of *Equisetum pratense*. A specimen will be deposited in the herbarium of the New England Botanical Club.

*E. pratense* is known from three stations in the Housatonic valley in Connecticut, the northernmost within three miles of the Massachusetts line. There seems to be no reason why it should stop there; although a species of rather scattered and discontinuous distribution in New England, it may be hopefully looked for in the Housatonic valley in Massachusetts.—C. A. WEATHERBY, Gray Herbarium.

*The dates of issue of the December and January issues (unpublished as this goes to press) will be announced later.*